

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claims 1 - 24 (Canceled)

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): A thermoplastic composition comprising a mixture of a polyamide and/or polyester matrix with at least:

(i) a first additive of formula  $R-Z_u$ , in which:

R is a hydrocarbon radical optionally comprising one or more heteroatoms,

u is an integer greater than or equal to 1,

and

Z is an acid, amine or alcohol functional group; and

(ii) a second additive selected from the group consisting of:

(A) an additive obtained by the a reaction between at least:

a) one multifunctional compound of formula (I):



b) one monofunctional ~~multifunctional~~ compound of formula (III):



c) optionally, one bifunctional monomer of formula (II) or the a

corresponding cyclic form



(B) one additive obtained by the a reaction between at least:

- a) one monofunctional compound of formula (III):



- b) one branching compound of formula (IV):



- c) optionally, one multifunctional compound of formula (I):



- d) optionally, one bifunctional monomer of formula (II) or the a corresponding cyclic form



in which:

$R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and/or  $R^4$  represent, independently of each other, a hydrocarbon radical optionally comprising one or more heteroatoms;

X and Y are antagonist reactive functional groups capable of reacting with each other to form an amide bond;

n is an integer ranging from 3 to 50;

m is an integer ranging from 2 to 10; and with the proviso that

$R$ ,  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  do not comprise an amine, acid or alcohol functional group capable of forming an amide and/or ester bond.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The thermoplastic composition as defined by Claim 25, comprising from 0.01 to 5% by weight of the first additive (i) relative to the total weight of the composition.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The thermoplastic composition as defined by Claim 25, comprising from 0.01 to 20% by weight of the second additive (ii) relative to the total weight of the composition.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The thermoplastic composition as defined by Claim 25, wherein the radical R of the first additive (i) is a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, aliphatic, cyclic and/or aromatic hydrocarbon radical which may optionally comprise one or more heteroatoms, said radical R having from 2 to 100 carbon atoms.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): The thermoplastic composition as defined by Claim 25, wherein the first additive (i) is selected from the group consisting of isophthalic acid, terephthalic acid, adipic acid, trimesic acid, 2,2,6,6-tetrakis ( $\beta$ -carboxyethyl)cyclohexanone, diaminopropane-N,N,N',N'-tetraacetic acid, nitrilotrialkylamines, trialkylenetetraamines, tetraalkylenepentaamines, 4-aminoethyl-1,8-octanediamine, 3,5,3',5'-biphenyltetracarboxylic acid, acid derivatives of phthalocyanine and naphthalocyanine, 1,3,5,7- naphthalenetetracarboxylic acid, 2,4,6-pyridinetricarboxylic acid, 3,5,3',5'- bipyridyltetracarboxylic acid, 3,5,3',5'-benzophenonetetracarboxylic acid, 1,3,6,8-acridinetetracarboxylic acid, 1,2,4,5-benzenetetra-carboxylic acid, 1,3,5-triazines, 1,4-diazines, melamine, compounds derived from 2,3,5,6-tetraethylpiperazine, 1,4-piperazines, tetrathiafulvalenes, 2,4,6-tri(aminocaproic acid)-1,3,5-triazine (TAGT), dodecylamine, octadecylamine, piperidine, benzylamine, aniline, hexanoic acid, palmitic acid, stearic acid, oleic acid, benzoic acid, behenic acid, polyalkylene oxides comprising at

least one amine or acid functional group, glycol, trimethylolpropane, glycerol, pentaerythritol, sorbitol, mannitol, monosaccharides, and/or a mixture thereof.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The thermoplastic composition as defined by Claim 25, wherein Y is an amine functional group when X represents a carboxylic acid functional group, or Y is a carboxylic acid functional group when X represents an amine functional group.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The thermoplastic composition as defined by Claim 25, wherein the radicals  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and/or  $R^4$  of the second additive (ii) represent, independently of each other, a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, aliphatic, cyclic and/or aromatic hydrocarbon radical which may optionally comprise one or more heteroatoms, said radicals  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and/or  $R^4$  having from 2 to 100 carbon atoms.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): The thermoplastic composition as defined by Claim 25, wherein the multifunctional compound of formula (I) is selected from the group consisting of 2,2,6,6-tetrakis( $\beta$ -carboxyethyl)cyclohexanone, diaminopropane-N,N,N',N'-tetraacetic acid, nitrilotrialkylamines, trialkylenetetraamines and tetraalkylenepentaamines, 4-aminoethyl-1,8-octanediamine, 3,5,3',5'-biphenyltetracarboxylic acid, the acid derivatives of phthalocyanine and naphthalocyanine, 1,3,5,7-naphthalenetetracarboxylic acid, 2,4,6-pyridinetricarboxylic acid, 3,5,3',5'-bipyridyltetracarboxylic acid, 3,5,3',5'-benzophenonetetracarboxylic acid, 1,3,6,8-acridine tetracarboxylic acid, trimesic

acid, 1,2,4,5-benzenetetracarboxylic acid, 1,3,5-triazines, 1,4-diazines, melamine, the compounds derived from 2,3,5,6-tetraethylpiperazine, 1,4-piperazines, tetrathiafulvalenes, 2,4,6-tri(aminocaproic acid)-1,3,5-triazine (~~TACT~~), polyalkylene oxides containing at least three acid or amine functional groups, and/or mixtures thereof.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): The thermoplastic composition as defined by Claim 25, wherein the bifunctional compound of general formula (II) is selected from the group consisting of  $\epsilon$ -caprolactam and/or the corresponding amino acid:

aminocaproic acid, para- or meta- aminobenzoic acid, 11-aminoundecanoic acid, lauryllactam and/or the corresponding amino acid, 12-aminododecanoic acid, caprolactone, 6-hydroxyhexanoic acid, and oligomers and/or mixtures thereof. **[[,]]**

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The thermoplastic composition as defined by Claim 25, wherein the monofunctional compound of general formula (III) is selected from the group consisting of an aliphatic monoacid or monoamine compound, an aromatic monoamine or monoacid compound, an organophosphorus monoamine or monocarboxylic acid compound, an organosulfo monoamine or monocarboxylic acid compound, a quaternary ammonium monoamine or monocarboxylic acid compound and/or mixtures thereof.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): The thermoplastic composition as defined by Claim 25, wherein the monofunctional compound of general formula (III) is selected from the group consisting of n-hexadecylamine, n-octadecylamine, n-

dodecylamine, benzylamine, aminomethylphosphonic acid, sulfanilic acid, sulfobenzoic acid, betaine, and/or mixtures thereof.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): The thermoplastic composition as defined by Claim 25, wherein the branching compound of formula (IV) is selected from the group consisting of 5-aminoisophthalic acid, 6-aminoundecandioic acid, 3-aminopimelic diacid, aspartic acid, 3,5-diaminobenzoic acid, 3,4-diaminobenzoic acid, lysine and/or mixtures thereof.

Claim 37 (Currently Amended): The thermoplastic composition as defined by Claim 25, wherein the additive (ii) (A) is a functionalized star-shaped polyamide obtained by the a reaction of at least: one multifunctional compound of formula (I), one bifunctional monomer of formula (II) or the a corresponding cyclic form thereof, and one monofunctional compound of formula (III).

Claim 38 (Currently Amended): The thermoplastic composition as defined by Claim 25, wherein the additive (ii) (B) is a functionalized hyperbranched polyamide obtained by the a reaction of at least: optionally, one multifunctional compound of formula (I), one bifunctional monomer of formula (II) or the corresponding cyclic form thereof, one monofunctional compound of formula (III), and one branching compound of formula (IV).

Claim 39 (Currently Amended): The thermoplastic composition as defined by Claim 25, wherein the additive (ii) (A) is obtained by the a reaction between a

multifunctional compound of formula (I) in proportions of from 1 to 30% by weight, a monofunctional compound of formula (III) in proportions of from 5 to 60% by weight, and, optionally, a bifunctional monomer of formula (II) in proportions of from 0 to 95% by weight.

Claim 40 (Currently Amended): The thermoplastic composition as defined by Claim 25, wherein the additive (ii) (B) is obtained by the a reaction between a monofunctional compound of formula (III) in proportions of from 20 to 70% by weight, a branching compound of formula (IV) in proportions of from 10 to 50% by weight, optionally, a multifunctional compound of formula (I) in proportions of from 0 to 10% by weight and, optionally, a bifunctional monomer of formula (II) in proportions of from 0 to 50% by weight.

Claim 41 (Previously Presented): The thermoplastic composition as defined by Claim 25, wherein the content of terminal acid and amine groups of the second additive (ii) ranges from 0 to 300 meq/kg.

Claim 42 (Previously Presented): The thermoplastic composition as defined by Claim 25, comprising a polyamide matrix of a (co)polyamide selected from the group consisting of polyamide 6, polyamide 6,6, polyamide 4, polyamide 11, polyamide 12, polyamides 4-6, 6-10, 6-12, 6-36, 12-12, and copolymers and mixtures thereof.

Claim 43 (Previously Presented): The thermoplastic composition as defined by Claim 25, comprising reinforcing or bulk fillers.

Claim 44 (Previously Presented): The thermoplastic composition as defined by Claim 43, comprising reinforcing glass fibers.

Claim 45 (Previously Presented): A process for the preparation of a thermoplastic composition as defined by Claim 25, comprising mixing at least the first additive (i) and the second additive (ii) with the polyamide and/or polyester matrix.

Claim 46 (Previously Presented): A process for the shaping of an article by forming a thermoplastic composition as defined by Claim 25, comprising the extrusion, molding, injection or drawing thereof.

Claim 47 (Previously Presented): A shaped article formed from the thermoplastic composition as defined by Claim 25.

Claim 48 (New): The thermoplastic composition of claim 25, wherein  $u$  is an integer greater than 1.